

MONEY MATTERS

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships



WITHDRAWALS AND "F" GRADES

As the deadlines for adding, dropping and withdrawing from classes approach, we want to take a minute and highlight how the decision to withdraw from one class or from all of your classes within a given term can affect your eligibility for financial assistance now and in the future.

Likewise, earning all "F" grades can affect your current and future eligibility.

To comply with federal regulations, the financial aid office may need to reduce or cancel previously disbursed financial aid. This immediate consequence could cause you to owe the university money.

For the future, withdrawing or earning "F" grades could result in your inability to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements.

To learn more about the effects of withdrawal and "F" grades on a recently completed term, review the information in Section 13 of 'JMU Terms & Conditions for Financial Aid' which can be found here:

<http://www.jmu.edu/financialaid/terms-and-conditions.shtml#Set-1-A-section13>

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PRIVATE/ALTERNATIVE LOANS

There are many things to consider before applying for a private/alternative loan. In most cases, federal student and parent loans are more cost effective and provide more consumer protections than private loans.

Compare Federal Subsidized/Unsubsidized Direct Loans to Private/Alternative Loans at:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/loans/federal-vs-private>

To begin researching about different lenders who offer alternative/private student loans, visit our website at:

<http://www.jmu.edu/financialaid/apply/aid-options/private-alternative-loan.shtml>

REPEATED COURSES

Federal regulations limit the number of times students can receive financial aid for repeating courses. Students may only receive financial aid for a course one more time after previously passing the same class with a grade of "D" or better.

This could affect your financial aid eligibility. For example, if you are registered for 12 credit hours and three of them are for a repeated course, your aid would be based on 9 credit hours.



SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

All students must meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements to receive financial aid. Federal regulations require each institution to have a SAP policy, which establishes the minimum academic standards for financial aid eligibility.

Your academic progress is measured once per year (after spring grades have posted).

If you are unable to meet SAP requirements, you will lose your eligibility for federal financial aid, including grants, loans (both student and parent) and federal work-study.

You may appeal the SAP denial if you experienced extenuating circumstances.

2018-19 SAP Appeal Deadlines

- Summer 2018 – June 25, 2018
- Fall 2018 – September 10, 2018
- Spring 2019 – January 21, 2019

For a description of JMU's requirements and to use the online estimator, visit our website at:

www.jmu.edu/financialaid/learn/sap/index.shtml

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 4th - Add/Drop Deadline

September 4th - Student Employment Job Fair

September 10th - Fall SAP Appeal Deadline

October 1st - 2019/20 FAFSA becomes available